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CC 92-105

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September 24, 1996

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Mr. Reed Hundt
Chairman, FCC
Attn: Secretary
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-105

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) represents over 20,000 members across the nation and supports the Office of Sheriff and their respective counties. As emergency communications have always been a top priority for NSA, we have become deeply concerned about the 911 crisis.

During our annual conference last June, the National Sheriffs' Association adopted the attached resolution in support of a national non-emergency number. In our view, this technology will greatly assist law enforcement to relieve the increasing burden on all 911 systems throughout the United States.

For this reason, the NSA strongly urges the FCC to take swift action and adopt the proposal submitted by the Department of Justice to establish 311 as a national non-emergency number. As noted in the NSA resolution, this action is urgently needed to save lives and prevent the further deterioration of 911.

Very truly yours,

Don Hathaway
Sheriff Donald E. Hathaway
NSA President

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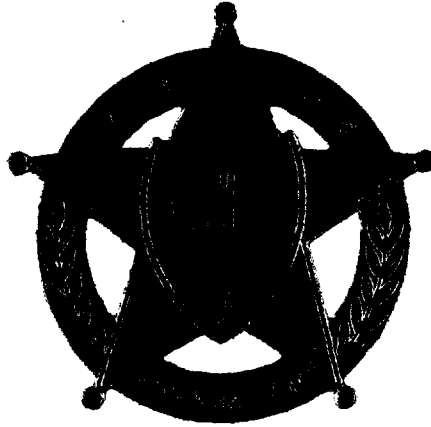
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NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



Resolution

ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY AND THE NATION'S 911 SYSTEM

WHEREAS, public safety is the highest priority of the Nation's Sheriffs; and

WHEREAS, 911 emergency telephone service is now overwhelmed by non-emergency calls in many jurisdictions across the Nation; and

WHEREAS, this crisis has made it impossible for many law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to respond to emergencies in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, it has been widely reported that the 911 crisis has resulted in a loss of life and danger to public safety; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Sheriffs' Association hereby recommends that Congress and U.S. Department of Justice give priority consideration to the need for testing, demonstration and funding of advanced technology to address the 911 crisis and volume of non-emergency calls; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Sheriffs' Association recommends that the telecommunications industry immediately develop a national telephone number for non-emergency purposes, thereby helping to relieve the burden on the Nation's 911 system and the cellular telephone issues.

Adopted at a meeting of the
Membership on this 19th day of
June 1996 in Portland, Oregon